

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and for the courtesies extended during the Examiner Interview.

Interview Summary

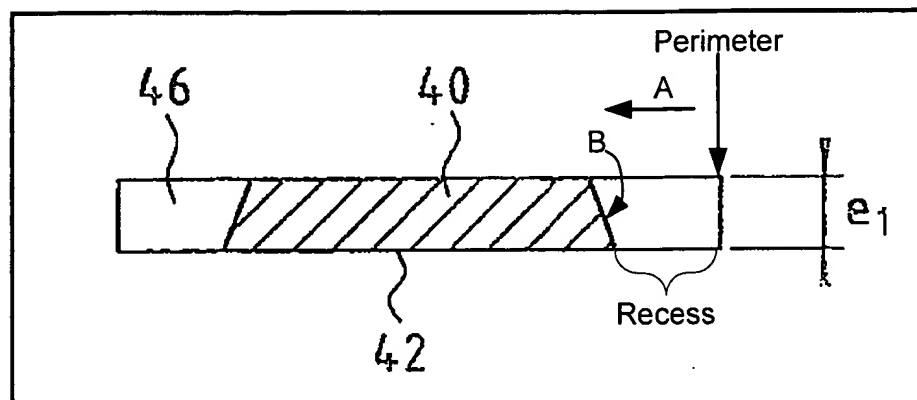
The Applicant's representative and the Examiner participated in an Interview on November 7, 2005. During the interview, the Applicant's representative briefly described the invention to the Examiner and then discussed the teachings of U.S. Patent No. 5,422,435 ("Takiar"). In particular, the Applicant's representative discussed the differences between the "holes" disclosed in Takiar and the "recesses" of the present invention. At the close of the interview, the Examiner indicated that claim amendments clarifying the term "recesses" such that their use in the claim reflects the recesses shown in Figures 3 and 4A-4B of the instant specification, would be sufficient to overcome Takiar.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-7 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 5.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1 and 5 have been amended to clarify that each recess in the complimentary chip *extends laterally inward from a perimeter of the complimentary chip*. An annotated version of Figure 4A has been included to aid in the understanding of the claim amendment.



As shown in the above figure, the recess extends in direction A (*i.e.*, laterally inward) from the perimeter of the complementary chip (40). Further, the above figure clearly shows that the recesses are only bound on one side (*i.e.*, the surface denoted by B). Support for this amendment may be found, for example, on page 5 and Figures 3 and 4A-4C of the instant specification. Further, claims 1-6 have been amended to replace instances of European style phraseology with phraseology consistent with U.S. Patent practice. No new matter has been added by any of the aforementioned amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,422,435 ("Takiar"). To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness "...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (*See* MPEP §2143.03). Further, "all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim

against the prior art.” (See MPEP §2143.03). The Applicant respectfully asserts that the reference fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of amended independent claim 1.

Specifically, Takiar fails to disclose recesses in a complimentary chip which *extend laterally inward from a perimeter of the complimentary chip*. Rather, Takiar only shows a complementary chip (214) that includes a number of holes (222, 224). Further, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the holes are not equivalent to the recesses recited in the amended claims. Specifically, the holes (222, 224), by virtue of the fact that they are holes, are bound on *two* sides. In contrast, the recesses, by definition, are only bound on *one* side. Thus, the holes shown in Takiar are not equivalent to the recesses recited in amended independent claim 1.

In view of the above, independent claims 1 is patentable over Takiar. Further, dependent claims 2-3, which depend on claim 1, are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takiar in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,155,068 (“Tada”). To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claim, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, Takiar fails to disclose the limitations of independent claim 1 or render claim 1 obvious. Further, Tada fails to supply that which Takiar lacks. This is evidenced by the fact that Tada is only relied upon to teach the limitation that the active chip and the complementary chip are made of the same semiconductor material. (See Office Action mailed September 8, 2005, pp. 3-4). In view of the above, independent claim 1 is patentable over Takiar and Tada, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claim 4, which is dependent on claim 1, is patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takiar in view of admitted prior art (APA). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, Takiar fails to disclose the limitations of amended independent claims 1. Further, APA fails to supply that which Takiar lacks. Specifically, APA fails to disclose or suggest recesses in a complimentary chip where the recesses *extend laterally inward from a perimeter of the complimentary chip*.

In view of the above, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Takiar and APA, whether considered separately or in combination. Amended independent claim 5 includes similar allowable subject matter as claim 1 and, thus, is patentable over Takiar and APA for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1. Further, dependent claims 6-7, which depend from amended independent claim 5, are patentable over Takiar and APA for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 5. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 09669/005001).

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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